



## Position Statement

### Open Data

The Open Data Institute (ODI) defines open data as 'data that anyone can access, use and share. Open data has to have a licence that says it is open data. Without a licence, the data can't be reused.

The ODI's data spectrum visualises the range of data licences that exist, from 'closed' to 'shared' to 'open'. The creative commons licences promoted within the National Biodiversity Network offer data owners and aggregators the option to share data for non-commercial use under a CC-BY-NC licence, or to make them open under one of three licences – CC0, CC-BY or OGL.

ALERC has engaged with the Open Data Institute to develop its understanding of the open data movement, and the opportunities it presents to local environmental records centres to meet their stated aims and objectives. As a result, ALERC will:

1. work directly with key organisations nationally to help lead the open data conversation, and ensure there is a clear and positive role for ALERC members within national plans.
2. encourage members to assess the potential of their roles as providers of open data
3. encourage members in their roles as open data consumers to evaluate and utilise available open data to enhance services for their stakeholders
4. encourage members to write and publish an open data strategy in collaboration with their stakeholders, which will set out long-term objectives relating to the publication and consumption of open biodiversity data in their operational areas